

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EUR-25 SCEM-02 INT-08 AGR-20

AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 SPC-03 CIEP-02 LAB-06

SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-10 SS-20 STR-08 CEA-02 DODE-00

PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 DRC-01 /221 W

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R 081635Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4127

INFO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TUNIS 0121

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, TS, IR

SUBJ: PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO IRAN APPEARS TO BE
PRIMARILY ECONOMICALLY ORIENTED

REF: TUNIS 2959 AND 3019

1. PRIME MINISTER NOUIRA LEFT ON OFFICIAL VISIT TO
TEHRAN JANUARY 6-11 TO RETURN OFFICIAL VISIT OF PRIME
MINISTER HOVEYDA IN MAY 1973. NOUIRA VISIT APPEARS TO
BE PRIMARILY ECONOMICALLY ORIENTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH
TUNISIA'S EFFORTS TO INCREASE ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FROM
OIL PRODUCING STATES.

2. ARTICLE IN GOVERNMENT NEWSPAPER LA PRESSE PRIOR TO
NOUIRA DEPARTURE EMPHASIZES THAT NOUIRA WILL FOLLOW UP
ON PROGRESS MADE DURING HOVEYDA VISIT TO INCREASE COOPERA-
TION BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES (READ IRANIAN AID), NOTABLY
IN ENERGY AND AGRICULTURAL SECTORS. ARTICLE NOTES THAT
IRAN HAS INDICATED WILLINGNESS TO SEND PETROLEUM EXPERTS
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TO TUNISIA AND TO OFFER ACADEMIC AND PRACTICAL TRAINING

TO TUNSIANS IN IRAN. ACCORDING TO ARTICLE, AMONG JOINT AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS WHICH HOVEYDA RECENTLY DECLARED HIS COUNTRY WAS PREPARED TO HELP FINANCE IS CONSTRUCTION OF DAM ON JEDJERDA RIVER AS PART OF IRRIGATION PROGRAM. ARTICLE ALSO NOTES THAT GREATER COOPERATION WILL BE SOUGHT BETWEEN BANKING INSTITUTIONS OF TWO COUNTRIES CONCERNED WITH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. AS FURTHER CONFIRMATION OF ECONOMIC ORIENTATION OF NOUIRA VISIT IS FACT THAT HE IS ACCOMPANIED BY MINISTER OF NATIONAL ECONOMY AYARI, DIRECTOR OF ENERGY ROUROU, AND SPECIAL ADVISOR IN MINISTRY OF NATIONAL ECONOMY BOUSSOFFARA.

3. COMMENT: GOT PROBABLY SEES IN IRAN A MODERATE, LIKE-MINDED DEVELOPING COUNTRY WHICH ALSO HAS ADVANTAGE OF LARGE ECONOMIC RESOURCES WHICH IT CAN USE TO ASSIST TUNISIA.
SEELYE

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